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level of classification, or reclassify specific information only when the standards and procedures for classifying information under this Order are followed.

(d) No information may remain classified indefinitely. Information that is marked for an indefinite duration of classification under predecessor orders, for example, information marked as "Originating Agency's Determination Required," or classified information that contains either incomplete or no declassification instructions, shall have appropriate declassification information applied in accordance with part 3 of this order.

[78 FR 5118, Jan. 24, 2013]

§ 1203.408 Assistance by Information Security Specialist in the Center Protective Services Office.

Center Security Classification Officers, as the Center point-of-contact, will assist Center personnel in:

- (a) Interpreting security classification guides and classification assignments for the Center.
- (b) Answering questions and considering suggestions concerning security classification matters.
- (c) Ensuring a continuing review of classified information for the purpose of declassifying or downgrading in accordance with subpart E of this part.
- (d) Reviewing and approving, as the representative of the contracting officer, the DD Form 254, Contract Security Classification Specification, issued to contractors by the Center.
- (e) Forwarding all security classification guides to the Office of Protective Services, NASA Headquarters, for final approval.

[44 FR 34913, June 18, 1979, as amended at 78 FR 5118, Jan. 24, 2013]

§1203.409 Exceptional cases.

(a) In those cases where a person not authorized to classify information originates or develops information which is believed to require classification, that person must contact the Center's or installation's Information Security Officer in the Protective Services Office to arrange for proper review and safeguarding. Persons other than NASA employees should forward

the information to the NASA Central Registry at 300 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20546, Attention: Office of Protective Services.

- (b) Information in which NASA does not have primary interest shall be returned promptly, under appropriate safeguards, to the sender in accordance with \$1203.405.
- (c) Material received from another agency for a NASA security classification determination shall be processed within 90 days. If a classification cannot be determined during that period, the material shall be sent, under appropriate safeguards, to the Director, Information Security Oversight Office, for a determination.

[44 FR 34913, June 18, 1979, as amended at 78 FR 5118, Jan. 24, 2013]

§1203.410 Limitations.

- (a) In no case shall information be classified, continue to be maintained as classified, or fail to be declassified in order to:
- (1) Conceal violations of law, inefficiency, or administrative error;
- (2) Prevent embarrassment to a person, organization, or agency;
 - (3) Restrain competition; or
- (4) Prevent or delay the release of information that does not require protection in the interest of the national security.
- (b) Basic scientific research information not clearly related to the national security may not be classified.
- (c) Information may not be reclassified after declassification after being released to the public under proper authority unless: The reclassification is based on a document-by-document review by NASA and a determination that reclassification is required to prevent at least significant damage to the national security and personally approved in writing by the Administrator, the Deputy Administrator, or the Assistant Administrator for Protective Services. All reclassification actions will be coordinated with the Information Security Oversight Office before final approval; the information may be reasonably recovered without bringing undue public attention to the information; the reclassification action is reported promptly to the Assistant to the President for National Security